

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled)

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A production method of an absorption refrigerator using a refrigerant and its absorption solution, comprising:

heating a surface of at least a part of a heat exchanger and high temperature regenerator in an atmosphere containing oxygen gas to form an oxide film thereon, said oxide film being in contact with said absorption solution and protecting said surface from corrosion due to said absorption solution during operation of the absorption refrigerator.

4. (currently amended) A production method of an absorption refrigerator using a refrigerant and its absorption solution, comprising:

heating a surface of at least a part of a heat exchanger and high temperature regenerator in an atmosphere in which an oxygen partial pressure or steam partial pressure is higher than atmospheric air, to form an oxide film thereon, said oxide film being in contact with said absorption solution and protecting said surface from corrosion due to said absorption solution during operation of the absorption refrigerator.

5. (previously presented) A production method of an absorption refrigerator using a refrigerant and its absorption solution, comprising:

oxidizing a surface of at least a part of a heat exchanger and high temperature regenerator at a temperature of 200-800°C in atmosphere; and

adjusting the heating temperature and heating retaining time so that a value of parameter (P) obtained according to an equation $P=T(5 + \log t)$, wherein T is a heating temperature (°K) and t is a heating retaining time (minute), is $3.5-6.0 \times 10^3$.

6. (currently amended) A production method of an absorption refrigerator using water as a refrigerant and a halogen compound as its absorption solution, comprising:

heating a surface of at least a part of a heat exchanger and high temperature regenerator in an atmosphere containing oxygen gas to form an oxide film thereon, said oxide film being in contact with said absorption solution and protecting said surface from corrosion due to said absorption solution during operation of the absorption refrigerator.

7. (currently amended) A production method of an absorption refrigerator using water as a refrigerant and a halogen compound as an absorption solution, said absorption refrigerator comprising a high temperature regenerator heating a water solution containing therein the halogen compound to generate steam, a condenser condensing the steam, a low temperature regenerator cooling the steam, an evaporator evaporating the water from said condenser and generating cold water, an absorber absorbing the water from said evaporator into the water solution containing therein halogen compound of high concentration, and a heat exchanger returning the

refrigerant from said absorber to said high temperature regenerator and exchanging heat between the water from said low temperature regenerator and the refrigerant from said absorber, said production method comprising:

heating a surface of at least one of said high temperature regenerator, said low temperature regenerator, said absorber and said heat exchanger in an atmosphere containing oxygen gas thereby to form an oxide film thereon, said oxide film being in contact with said absorption solution and protecting said surface from corrosion due to said absorption solution during operation of the absorption refrigerator.

8. (currently amended) A production method of an absorption refrigerator using water as a refrigerant and a halogen compound as an absorption solution, said absorption refrigerator comprising a high temperature regenerator heating a water solution containing therein the halogen compound to generate steam, a condenser condensing the steam, a low temperature regenerator cooling the steam, an evaporator evaporating the water from said condenser and generating cold water, an absorber absorbing the water from said evaporator into the water solution containing therein a halogen compound of high concentration, and a heat exchanger returning the refrigerant from said absorber to said high temperature regenerator and exchanging heat between the water from said low temperature regenerator and the refrigerant from said absorber, said production method comprising:

heating said heat exchanger in an atmosphere containing oxygen gas to form an oxide film thereon, said oxide film being in contact with said absorption solution and protecting said surface from corrosion due to said absorption solution during operation of the absorption refrigerator.